GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4000
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2000
DECLINE IN DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN TOURISTS
RASA SINGH RAWAT

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been some decline in the number of domestic and foreign tourists in the country in comparison with the previous years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the schemes of the Government for providing better facilities and protection to the domestic and foreign tourists, the overall development of tourist spots and making them attractive;

(d) the steps taken by the Government for attracting tourists to the rural natural environment and folk culture of the country; and

(e) the efforts made by the Government so far to highlight these specialities?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR)

(a): No, sir.

(b): Does not arise.

(c), (d) and (e): The development of tourism in any State including providing facilities and protection to tourists and development of tourists spots etc., is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/U.T. Administrations. However, Department of Tourism provides Central financial assistance to State Governments/U.T. Administrations for tourism projects which are prioritised every year in consultation with them. The projects include promotion of selected/identified fairs and festivals, rural craft melas, village tourism projects and development of adventure tourism activities etc.

The Department of Tourism has identified 25 travel circuits and 12 destinations for development and promotion of tourism through the joint efforts of Central, State Governments and private sector. Many of these fall within the rural and natural areas.